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Israeli troops shoot dead 2 Palestinians

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli troops shot dead two Palestinians in the occupied West Bank on Saturday, the Israeli army and Palestinian sources said. A Palestinian human rights group accused the Israeli undercover soldiers of standing the two in plastic handcuffs against a wall on Saturday and shooting them dead. The army denied the allegation, saying the two, both wanted, were shot when one of them prepared to open fire in the occupied West Bank. The Palestine human rights information centre issued a statement with the testimony of what it said was a witness. The witness was not identified. An army spokesman said the soldiers spotted two men, one of them armed. "When one of the Palestinians prepared to shoot, the soldiers opened fire killing both men," the spokesman said. The army said Amin Kassam Rehal, 29, and Ahmed Mustafa Duka, 21, had been wanted for the last 18 months for attacking Israelis and killing fellow Arabs thought to be collaborating with Israeli authorities. The two belonged to the militant Black Panther group identified with the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO).

Bomb thrown at police station in upper Egypt

ASSIUT, Egypt, (R) — Bomb was thrown at a police station in the Muslim militant stronghold of Dayrut in upper Egypt, but caused no casualties. Police responded with automatic weapons fire after the unknown assailant, presumed to be a Muslim militant, threw the bomb, which missed its target. The suspect escaped and a source at Dayrut hospital said it had not received any casualties from the incident. The area around Dayrut, in Assiut province about 270 km (170 miles) south of Cairo, is Egypt's biggest single theatre of Muslim militant-related violence that has killed about 70 people this year. Earlier, a resident, contacted by telephone from the nearby city of Assiut, said he heard automatic rifle fire which appeared to be coming from near the town's train station. He said there were other explosions that sounded like bomb blasts. A British woman was killed on a main road just outside Dayrut last month, the most serious attack so far on foreign tourists in the area. Meanwhile, a Muslim militant, arrested near Cairo with 12 kg (26 lb) of explosives in his car, planned to blow up a flyover in the Egyptian capital, security sources said on Saturday.

Jordan presents Israel with 'new wording' for draft agenda PLO considers delaying peace talks

AMMAN (Agencies) — Head of the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks Abdul Salam Al Majali said Saturday that his team has presented the Israelis with "a new wording" for the draft agenda reached by the two sides in Washington last month. "Although the two sides have agreed on the draft agenda at the outset of the seventh round of talks, it was discovered later that there was a gap in one of its paragraphs," Dr. Majali said upon arrival in Amman from Washington Saturday. Dr. Majali said the Jordanian delegation is awaiting the Israeli answer to the new wording of the draft agenda. He said the "new language makes the vision clearer and incontestable."

Oct. 27, Jordan discussed its content with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which was reported to have sought some modifications to the agenda. The draft agenda has yet to be endorsed by the government. Reaffirming Jordan's support for the Palestinians, Dr. Majali said the agenda includes "many points that back the Palestinian side, whether in the transitional period or when a final solution to the Palestinian problem is reached."

Dr. Majali reiterated Jordan's commitment to achieving peace in the region through reaching a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, adding that it was "natural for talks to witness progress on certain tracks more than others, or on certain topics more than others."

He said that the continuation of Arab-Israeli peace talks was important not only for the parties involved but also for the whole world, including the United States. Dr. Majali did not expect a change in American policy towards the region under President-elect Bill Clinton "because the American policy on the peace talks is institutional and not personal."

When the U.S. administration is moved from one party to another, that does not mean any shift in policy," he said. The U.S. State Department, he said, had stressed that the U.S. administration is keen on supporting the peace process in the Middle East and that it was determined, as was the Bush administration, to achieve peace. Meanwhile, Palestinian leaders gathering in Tunis will consider delaying the next round of peace talks with Israel, a PLO official said on Saturday.

A delay can allow for international and Arab consultations to break the deadlock and force Israel to respect the rules of the peace process and its terms of reference," Yasser Abed Rabbo, a member of the PLO Executive Committee, said in a statement faxed to reporters. The next meeting is planned for Dec. 7 in Washington but Palestinians have been discouraged by the results so far and fear

Mr. Clinton will steer the United States towards a more pro-Israeli stance. Israel refuses to meet the PLO but the group endorsed the start of Arab-Israeli peace talks in Madrid last year and directs from back stage a delegation from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Two radical groups earlier reported to be boycotting the Tunis meeting announced they would take part. The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF) said in a faxed statement that "boycott is not the right way to deal with political divergences within the PLO" and it would be represented by Secretary-General Samir Goshe. The Palestinian Liberation Front (PLF) said it was sending Deputy Secretary-General Ali Izhaq to show its "commitment to PLO as the only legal framework for the Palestinian struggle."

A statement issued in Damascus on Friday said the PPSF and the PLF would join two other factions, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine



KING OPENS CHARITABLE SOCIETY: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday opened Khalil Al Rahman Charitable Society and laid the foundation stone for its new facilities. At the opening ceremony, King Hussein met with citizens from the West Bank City of Hebron who founded the society. The citizens lauded Jordan's historic role in defending the Palestinian cause and supporting Palestinian people. Society President Wahid Al Ja'hari delivered an address affirming the unity of the Jordanian and Palestinian people. Mr. Ja'hari said Jordan's decision to sever its legal and administrative ties with the West Bank was a step towards the two peoples. King Hussein said that he was making a personal donation of JD 100,000 to support the society's activities. King Hussein was accompanied at the opening ceremony by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid.

If the Israelis agree to the new proposal, said Dr. Majali, the two sides will start discussing substantial issues listed on the agenda. The draft agenda, which came under attack from various Jordanian political parties, was agreed upon by the Jordanian and Israeli negotiators in Washington on

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France threatens to reject EC-US accord

PARIS (R) — French Prime Minister Pierre Berégovoy threatened on Saturday to reject a U.S.-European Community (EC) deal on farm trade, saying it was unacceptable to France and against the interests of European agriculture. With farmers threatening mass action in the countryside, France looked headed for a showdown with its EC partners on the bitterly debated accord, finally struck in Washington on Friday.

According to the information I now have, I judge this draft accord to be unacceptable and it will not be accepted," Mr. Berégovoy said in a statement. The prime minister said a plan to reduce the volume of subsidised EC farm exports by 21 per cent was incompatible with the EC's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which itself was overhauled after much acrimony last May.

"(The plan) constitutes a grave threat for agriculture not just in France but in the whole of Europe," he said. "Europe cannot return the CAP in May, only to undo it in November."

Some political commentators, including Pierre Haski from the centre-left newspaper Liberation, dismissed such talk as French posturing intended not to scupper the deal but to extract maximum EC compensation for it. But EC Commission President

Jacques Delors said he expected some tough wrangling when his commissioners meet next Wednesday. "There will be a battle of figures," Mr. Delors, himself a Frenchman, told journalists in Paris. Mr. Delors sought to pacify French farmers who fear the deal will devastate their livelihoods, telling journalists in Paris EC negotiators had won important concessions from the United States.

Although we are asking for a lot of sacrifices and although many in France are worried, I think about them (the farmers) a lot. I have always thought of them," he said. Mr. Delors was speaking after Mr. Berégovoy denounced the deal as unacceptable. Mr. Delors has been attacked by other EC countries, notably Britain, who have accused him of holding up the trade talks by putting his interests as a Frenchman ahead of his duties as commission president.

But on Saturday he was positive about Friday's deal, saying: "Our negotiators managed to bring important concessions from the Americans on reducing customs tariffs and market access." He added that Friday's deal would give farmers the choice whether to cultivate grains or oilseeds without imposing a ceiling on the tonnage produced.

The key issue is whether the New Deal, which will drastically cut back oilseed production as well as limit exports, exceeds last May's CAP reform. EC External Affairs Commissioner Frans Andriessen, echoing the unanimous opinion of EC officials, even French officials, in Brussels, told French radio he was confident it did not.

Italian diplomat to present U.N. at least talks

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian J.N. Ambassador Chinnappa Irekhan will represent Secretary-General Boutros Bout-Ghali at multilateral Middle East negotiations from January 1, Mr. Irekhan, 55, who is retiring from the Indian diplomatic service, will represent the chief of working groups dealing with Middle East arms control and regional security, environment, economic and social development as well as peace. India, a strong supporter of the Palestinians, established diplomatic relations with Israel earlier this year. Mr. Irekhan joined the Indian diplomatic service in 1958 and has been his country's U.N. representative since 1986. He was ambassador to Hanoi in 1975-76 and permanent representative to United Nations in Geneva from 1977 to 1980.

Protest in Paris over death of young Arab

PARIS (R) — Anti-racist activists led a 1,000-strong demonstration on Saturday to protest against the acquittal of a baker who shot dead a young Arab in a shop in the eastern town of Nanterre. The acquittal eight days after the killing has outraged France's political and judicial establishment who say the verdict was motivated by racial prejudice and legal reasoning. The baker, 40-year-old Marie-Jose Garnier, fired his rifle out of fear in the Arab shop after the owner, a black man, threatened to call the police. The baker was acquitted of murder and sentenced to 15 years in prison for carrying a loaded rifle. The acquittal was seen as a victory for the far-right National Front party, which has been pushing for a hardline against immigrants.

Bhutto to begin long 'train' march

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan officials said Saturday they would ban opposition leader Benazir Bhutto from starting a cross-country train ride aimed at drumming up support for her campaign to oust the government. "We will certainly go on the train (on Monday)," the former prime minister said. But Information Secretary Salim Gul said public demonstrations were banned in the southern province. Even if Ms. Bhutto and other opposition leaders arrive individually to take the train they will not be allowed to board, Mr. Gul said. Ms. Bhutto's long train crusade is planned to begin in Karachi and travel much of the length of Pakistan to Rawalpindi, 18 kilometres from Islamabad, the starting point of her march last Wednesday to remove the government that was broken up by police.

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Kuwait to argue against easing sanctions on Iraq

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Sabah left for the United Nations Saturday to argue against any relaxation of U.N. sanctions against Baghdad, officials said. Sheikh Saud, outgoing Kuwaiti ambassador to Washington and a member of the ruling family, will try to counter an Iraqi campaign led by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz.

Qatar boycotts GCC meeting

KUWAIT (AP) — Qatar on Saturday boycotted a meeting of the interior ministers of six Arab Gulf states, sending its neighbours another message that it is displeased with efforts to solve a border dispute with Saudi Arabia. No Qatari representatives attended a preparatory meeting of interior ministers undersecretaries held in the morning and its seat at the formal inaugural session later in the day remained vacant.

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Qatar accused Saudi forces of penetrating 12 kilometres (seven miles) into its territory. Saudi Arabia says the dispute was between tribal chieftains, not soldiers. On Oct. 27, Qatar shocked its GCC partners by sending an ambassador to Baghdad. The council's member countries have shunned Baghdad since Iraq's Aug. 2, 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Speaker's at the opening session of the Kuwait meeting made no reference to Qatar's boycott or its feud with the Saudis.

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In Mogadishu, fate is a shot in the dark

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

Home News

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1992



CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS SARVATH LEAVE FOR UK: Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath left Amman for the United Kingdom on a four-day visit. The Crown Prince is scheduled to deliver a Churchill Memorial Lecture at the headquarters of the English Speaking Union in London. He will also deliver an address at the "One World Broadcasting Trust" which caters for the development of international relations between different countries. The Prince's agenda also includes the distribution of annual awards for the best production of media programmes on communications between rich and poor countries. The Prince and Princess were seen off by a number of Royal Family members, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shakir, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, senior officials and high ranking army officers in addition to the British Ambassador to Jordan.

Kabariti opens training course

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Saturday opened a training seminar at the Workers Educational Institute.

A total of 40 participants taking part in the 10-day meeting will have lectures on the labour law, labour union's activities, evaluation of workers' production, labour movements of the Arab World and the role of workers in society.

The opening session was addressed by the minister who stressed that educational programmes for workers were bound to further create leaders equipped with better knowledge to serve their country. The Workers Educational Institute Director Ahmad Shawabkeh said that the training seminar was part of the institute's annual programme for 1992. The institute, which was founded in 1968, has so far organised 155 training programmes benefiting 4,400 workers, he said.

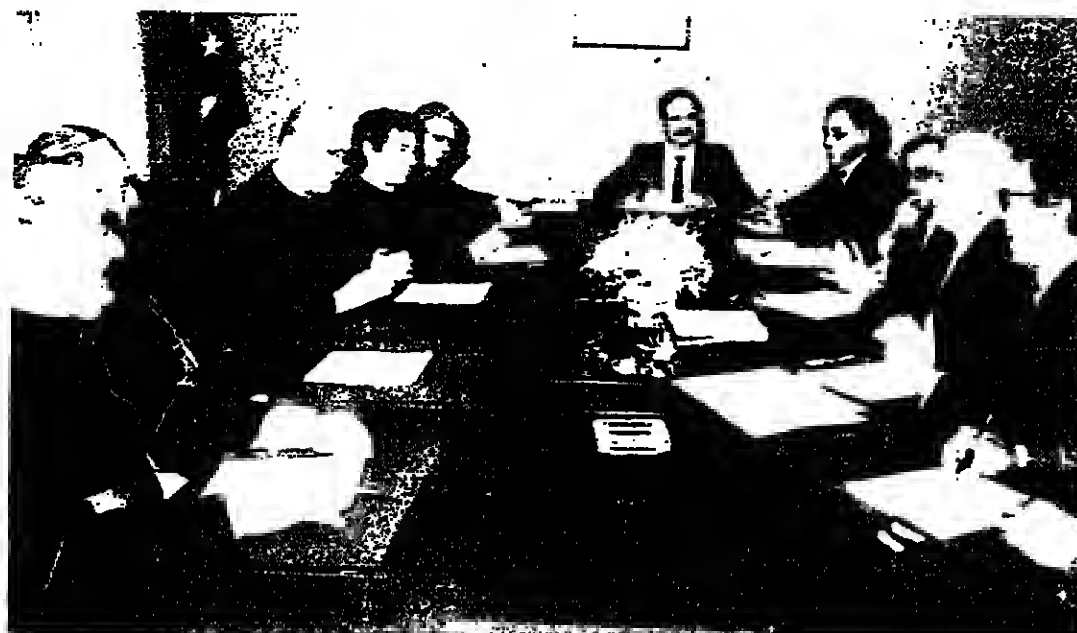
Mr. Shawabkeh said that the current seminar aimed at raising the educational standard of union leaders.

Vatican-Israeli relations require work, says Pope's envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Visiting Vatican Deputy Foreign Minister Claudio Celli announced in Amman Saturday that much work is required before diplomatic relations with Israel can be achieved.

"We are working towards normalising relations but that process is being done within specific framework that will be conducive to peace in the Middle East region," Msgr. Celli said following a meeting with Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber.

Msgr. Celli said: "We are trying to enter into a dialogue with countries of the region with the purpose of facilitating the peace process."



Vatican Deputy Foreign Minister Claudio Celli and his delegation meet with Foreign Minister

Kamel Abu Jaber in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

The talks with Dr. Abu Jaber revolved around the situation in the Middle East region and the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, according to an official statement.

Dr. Abu Jaber briefed the Vatican envoy and his accompanying delegation on the ongoing peace process and outlined the Jordanian position particularly with regard to its call for the implementation of U.N. resolutions for the sake of achieving a lasting settlement.

Dr. Abu Jaber emphasised the importance of Jerusalem for Jews and Muslims and he stressed that the city constitutes an integral part of the Occupied Arab territories.

The minister also referred to the moral and religious importance of the Vatican in helping to exercise an effective role aimed at the achievement of a just and lasting peace, the statement added.

Following the meeting Msgr. Celli who arrived Friday said the talks presented an opportunity for the exchange of views on ideas with regard to the regional questions and means of intensifying efforts to bolster Jordan-Vatican relations.

Arab school textbook workshop opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A six-day regional workshop on school textbooks for basic education in Arab countries was opened in Amman Saturday, with the participation of experts from various Arab countries.

Deputy Premier and Education Minister Thouqan Hindawi who opened the meeting said in an address that the Ministry of Education which prepares school textbooks continually cooperates with national and international organisations including the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in order to implement the recommendations of the 1987 national educational conference which included the preparation of new curricula and buying new school textbooks. The ministry has already started producing the required textbooks for the requirements of modern education pioneered by Jordanian educationists working in cooperation with local and international organisations, said the minister.

Basic education, he said, is the foundation for the new generations and school textbooks serve

as one tool in imparting education to the young, he said. Mr. Hindawi thanked UNESCO and other regional and international organisations for helping the Ministry of Education in Jordan in the process of implementing the 1987 educational resolutions.

The workshop which is organised by the Ministry of Education together with UNESCO is expected to discuss various aspects related to school textbooks for the basic stages and primary schools. The organisers said that the participants will be divided into working groups each discussing certain aspects of these textbooks.

UNESCO representative Habib Hajjar said that the workshop offers the participants a good opportunity to exchange views and expertise on basic education and school textbooks.

Dr. Ahmad Hiyasat Director of the Ministry of Education's curricula department reviewed the ministry's moves to develop school books and other components of the educational process in Jordan including the upgrading of school teachers.

Seminar talks data bases in libraries

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on the use of data bases in libraries in Jordan opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in Amman with the participation of 40 representatives of Jordanian private and public institutions.

The two-day meeting organised by the RSS in cooperation with the Jordan Library Association (JLA) and the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation is dedicated to discussing issues related to exchange of information through the National Information System to benefit public libraries.

The meeting was opened by Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz who underlined the importance of data banks in providing information to libraries among other institutions which, he said, contribute to the Jordan's socio-economic development.

The National Information System was established in 1987 in the Kingdom in cooperation with the RSS in order to help promote the work and services of the various institutions.

JLA President Yousef Qandeel reviewed the various activities of his association and the training of librarians.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Ensour to open new factories in Irbid

IRBID (Petra) — On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour will open Sunday at Al Hassan Industrial City in Irbid several new factories. Dr. Ensour will also visit a number of existing factories at the city to be briefed on means of activating the industrial movement in Irbid.

Council of ministers approves bilateral cooperation deals

AMMAN (Petra) — The council of ministers Saturday approved a trade agreement with Lebanon which provides for expanding the exchange of industrial and agricultural products. The ministers also approved of a committee to conduct cooperation between the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the General Electricity Corporation of Yemen. The committee, to be chaired by JEA Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafah, will hold its meeting with the Yemeni side in Sanaa next month to discuss cooperation in electricity. The council approved of the formation of a delegation from the Telecommunication Corporation (TCC) led by TCC Director Ahmad Nawawi to conduct talks with Yemeni officials on cooperation in telecommunication fields. The first meeting is to be held in Yemen also next month.

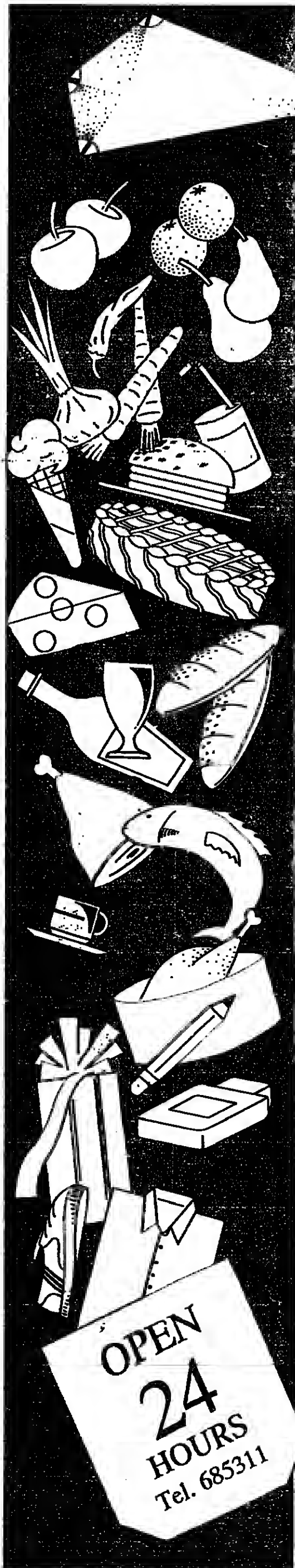
WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artists Ismail Fattah, Lisa Fattah and Mohammad Mohraddin at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
- ★ Photography exhibition entitled "Characteristics of the Mediterranean Sea" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of contemporary Swedish art at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILM

- ★ Feature film entitled "Funny Farm" at the American Centre — 5 p.m.



It's Been One Year Since We Turned It Around

OVER 100 PRIZES FOR NOVEMBER DRAW

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3) ABU-SHAQRA TRADING AGENCY
4) JORDAN CLOTHING CO.
5) PALESTINIAN TRADING CO.
6) MOUSA SAKLUJIAN TRD. CO.
- 7) ASTRA TRD. EST. FOR COMMERCIAL AGENCIES
8) TRANSMED
- 9) ZARA NATURAL DEAD SEA PRODUCTS
10) AL-SALASEL AL-DAHABIEH EST.
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12) HUJAZI & GHOSHEH FOOD STUFFS CO.
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33) SUGHAYER TRD. STORES FOR HOUSEHOLD ARTICLES
34) MOHD (BARBER FOR MEN)
35) GULF RESOURCES TRD. CO.
36) CAMILA TRD. AGENCIES
37) SHARKATLY TRD. CO.
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45) AL-DIER TRD. EST. DELMA & ACCONA STORES
46) SAID, SHA'ABAN & TLEEL TRD. CO.
47) MODERN INTERNATIONAL EST.
48) UNIVERSAL SALTS (LTD)
49) SAMI STATIONARY & GIFTS EST.
50) FAROUK JABSHIEH
51) JORDAN ANTISEPTICS & DETERGENTS IND. CO. (JADICO)
52) KHALAF STORES
53) CO-OPERATION EST. FOR IMPL. TRD. & DISTRIBUTION (NITCO)
54) N. KEYALI & SONS CO.
55) TRANSJORDAN ENGINEERING CO.
56) JORDAN DAIRY CO.
57) AL-SAKHRA EST.
58) MARWAN'S MLEH READY GARMENTS
59) DANISH JORDANIAN DAIRY CO.
60) KIRRESH & HASHLAMUN INDUSTRIAL CO.
61) AL-MANKAL CHICKEN TIKKA
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65) CENTURIES TRD. EST.
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67) BAMBOO CAFE
- (PLANE TICKET AMMAN - PARIS - AMMAN)
(T.D. WATCH, MONTANA & DRAKKAR NOIR PERFUMES AND JOOP DEODORANT)
(CHRISTIAN DIOR LIGHTER)
(SHIRTS)
(ALEEN TEA AND MORE GIFTS)
(LIMARA, COLGATE, PALMOLIVE, SCHICK, WEEPARIX, AJAX, KALSTON LAKES & PERFUMES DE COUR)
(PERFUMES MALES / FEMALES)
(P.T. SHAMPOO, CREST, ZEST, & CAMAY SOAP, SNICKERS, MARS, & MILKYWAY CHOCO, MR. SHEEN, ROBIN, CLOREX & FIRE STARTER HEAD & SHOULDERS SHAMPOO, CHECKLETS, FRUITFULS, TIDE, FIRE STARTER)
(SEBAMED PRODUCTS)
(DINNER FOR TWO AT AL-ALALI ROOFTOP NIGHT CLUB)
(AL-ARABI)
(SHARP TAPE RECORDER)
(AL-WAHA JUICE)
(MEMBERSHIP FOR TWO AT THE HEALTH CLUB)
(HOUSEHOLD ITEMS)
(ALBERTO CULVER V.O.S.)
(INVITATION FOR 2 AT ARCADIA REST, VARIETY OF PRODUCTS, 2 CERAMIC DISHES)
(S.O. 77)
(ONE NIGHT DOUBLE ROOM ACCOMODATION)
(REXONA DEODORANT, HANA & HERO CANS, ROYAL & HP SAUCE)
(HUBBLE BUBBLE)
(COSMETICS)
(INVITATION FOR 4 PERSONS)
(STUFFED ANIMALS)
(PERSONAL SCALES)
(VARIETY OF CAKES)
(AVON COSMETICS)
(TWO HOURS VIDEO SHOOTING)
(SEVENTEEN)
(FARM FOOD FOOD STUFF)
(NOON FOOD STUFF)
(QUARTS SWINGING CLOCK)
(AL-ARABI COOKING OIL)
(ACCONA WATCHES)
(MARY QUANT MAKE-UP SET)
(HEALTH FOOD)
(VILEDA PRODUCTS)
(CITIZEN)
(SWATCH WATCHES)
(NEVER RUN PANTY HOSE)
(SUPER SPARK & VASELIN)
(COLA COA)
(MALES & FEMALES CLOTHING ITEMS)
(KAN ZAMAN)
(SUN GLASSES)
(5 MUSICAL TAPES)

DRAW DATE: 1ST DECEMBER, AT 5:00 P.M.

ONE STOP SHOP

سیفوی SAFEWAY

محطة واحدة للتسوق

Jordan Times

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Editorial and advertising offices:

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephone: 667171/6, 670141-4

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Why the silence?

IN SPITE of all the diplomatic and economic efforts of the international community to curb Serbia's lust for more territories belonging to Bosnia and Croatia, Serbian forces continue their onslaught on what remained of these two countries. All past efforts to put in place an effective ceasefire in order to alleviate the sufferings of Bosnians and Croats went down the drain in view of the Serbs' determined plan to go ahead with their military strategy that aims at conquering territory and ethnic cleansing.

Attempts by the two co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference on former Yugoslavia, Mr. Cyrus Vance of the U.S. and Lord David Owen of Britain, to reestablish the rule of law, especially humanitarian law, in the former country, have also failed miserably. The sanctions imposed by the U.N. Security Council on Yugoslavia have not been potent enough to reduce Serbia's atrocities, crimes against humanity and war crimes against the Bosnians and the Croats. Even the latest decision of the Western European Union (WEU) defence group to implement a full naval blockade in the Adriatic Sea to tighten the economic noose on Serbia and Montenegro is not expected to frustrate their de facto annexation of Bosnian and Croatian territories.

There is an obvious reason why all past endeavours to put an end to Serbia's grave violation of humanitarian law and its persistent expansionist policy. The international community of nations, especially the West, has so far been hesitant, most probably unwilling, to take an effective and serious course of action. The kind of atrocities being committed daily by Serbian forces would have shocked the world into action. This time around, however, the world, including the so-called free and democratic states of the West, seems to have difficulty in reacting to such barbarism and instead has been manifesting the usual callous behaviour.

What is most intriguing though is the silence of the Muslim World in the face of the murder and torture of Bosnian Muslims and the reported abuse of their girls and women. How can one expect the West to rise up to the challenge posed by Serbian aggression and abominations when the Muslim World reaction's can be described as muted and subdued, at best.

Jordan has shown interest and concern for what is happening in the Balkan by dispatching forces to work with the U.N. peace keeping forces in former Yugoslavia. Yet there is need for a people's action commencing with the collection of food, clothing and medicines. Jordanians have always demonstrated their compassion and solidarity with their fellow Muslims. Government and non-governmental agencies may spearhead an effective reply to the woes and sufferings of Bosnians and Croats by taking bold initiatives on the Arab and Islamic levels. Silence in the face of brutality makes the world an accomplice in the heinous crimes being committed daily in that part of the world.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAI Arabic daily Saturday discussed Israel's manoeuvres at the peace negotiations which, it said, rendered the talks totally fruitless. In its latest claims, Israel said that it was the Palestinian who were obstructing a settlement, and the ruling Labour Party in Israel is accusing the Palestinian negotiators of causing the negotiating boat to sink, said the daily. The accusation, coming in the wake of the unsuccessful seventh round of negotiations in Washington, following a similar accusation on the part of Israel against the Syrian side, said the daily. It said that Israel, which seeks no comprehensive peace with the Arabs, is intent on concluding separate deals with the Arab parties to the negotiations because it believes such strategy is bound to help the Jewish state achieve its goals. Israel is trying to find excuses anywhere and with any party to justify its intransigent position at the peace negotiations, and it is trying to shift the blame on others for lack of progress towards a lasting settlement, the paper added. It said that no one really knows what Israel has got up its sleeve for the coming eighth round, due to open in Washington on Dec. 7, but it is common knowledge to all that it is Israel which is obstructing peace, the paper continued. It said that without the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, which form the basis for the current negotiations, no one expects any peace to prevail. The paper said it is Israel and not the Palestinians or the Syrians who are causing an abortion of the talks; and there is no way by which Israel can succeed in changing the picture without changing its own position.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour Saturday attacked the rulers of Kuwait for their drive to maintain the current embargo on Iraq and keep foreign forces on Kuwait territory. The Kuwaitis, who believe that the presence of foreign forces can provide them with protection against external threats, hope that by pursuing the current policies they will bring down the rule of Saddam Hussein, noted Taher Al Udwani. The writer said the Kuwaitis who caused the 30 nation aggression on Iraq and cost the Arab World \$614 billion, according to statistics published in the American press have failed to bring about a change in Iraq's strategy, let alone the downfall of the Iraqi president. Therefore, the repeated military exercises by foreign forces in Kuwait and Kuwait's efforts to foil Tareq Aziz's attempt to end the sanctions imposed on his country can by no means achieve the Kuwaiti rulers' goals, the writer said. The Iraqi people, who have suffered a great deal and who have offered huge sacrifices in the course of steadfastness and in safeguarding Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, can withstand the new conspiracies of the Kuwaiti regime, added the writer. He said it is rather more beneficial for the Kuwaitis to return to their senses and admit that they are the losers despite the false pretensions.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

A strong recovery of Jordan's economy

Several factors can claim the credit for the current economic take off in the Jordanian economy which started in mid-1991 and continued to accelerate since then. The present wave of economic boom, which is now in its 18th month, may continue for several more months before it starts to level off.

One of the aspects of this economic take off is the high growth in the second half of 1991, which was sufficient to make up for all the retreat and losses sustained during the first quarter of that year, due to the war, and to leave a net positive growth of one per cent. The growth in 1992 is expected to reach eleven per cent in constant prices, or eight per cent at factor cost, i.e., before adding indirect taxes. Such phenomenal growth was achieved while the inflation rate was kept below five per cent, thanks to the stable exchange rate of the dinar and the availability of idle productive resources, especially manpower.

The year 1992 was therefore the first year in a decade to achieve a rate of growth higher than the population growth. It was the first year since 1983 to witness a rise in the standard of living, instead of the usual decline, year after year, of the standard of living. The rate of unemployment was also miraculously reduced from the peak of 24 per cent, in mid-1991, to below 20 per cent now.

despite the return to Jordan from Kuwait of around twenty five thousand job seekers.

The leading engine for the current high growth is of course the construction boom, which is running at more than double the usual level in normal times. Construction is known not only to generate plenty of direct jobs in the course of its activities, but also to generate secondary jobs in other sectors of the economy. The factories producing cement, steel bars, wood, sanitary equipment and furniture, the quarrying and trucking, etc. are operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to cope with demand. The expansion in construction-related industry and services called for the employment of thousands of new labourers, which resulted in a substantial reduction in the unemployment stock, in spite of the influx of returnees on one hand, and the newcomers to the labour market on the other.

Construction was by no means the only sector responsible for heating up the activity in the market. Other factors were also instrumental. A lot of new small and medium-size investments and businesses are being started, as indicated by the number of new firms registered daily at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Tourism also recovered fully. As of this season — Autumn 1992 — tourism is back to its pre-Gulf crisis level, as indicated by the

high occupancy rates experienced by major hotels. If the price levels and turnover in the Amman stock exchange are a good indicator of the market activity, expectations and mood of business circles, the reading is very clear: both price turnover are at record highs.

Admittedly, some factors behind the current excellent performance of the economy are of temporary nature, such as the exceptional construction wave, which cannot go on at this level for long, the transfer of returnees' savings, which will be repeated every year, and the generous foreign aid, which will continue at the same level after the end of the Gulf crisis. Yet, there are other promising factors which will give Jordanian economy in the future another push forward. All these factors are: the success of peace negotiations or the existence of a peace process, the inevitable removal of the sanctions imposed by the outgoing President Bush against Iraqi people and the withering of the foreign indebtedness under terms and conditions that we can live with. The continued implementation of the economic adjustment programme is a guarantee that the economy will continue to move forward in the right direction, and in a favourable international environment.

Rights: The West should nag less and listen more

By Kishore Mahbubani

SINGAPORE — For the West, it is not enough for democracies to have regular, freely contested elections. They must be bills of democracies with strong bill of rights designed to protect members of minorities, and individuals from the majority. There must be freedom of the press and speech. In practice, democracies would have to be measured by standards set either by the United States or by Western Europe.

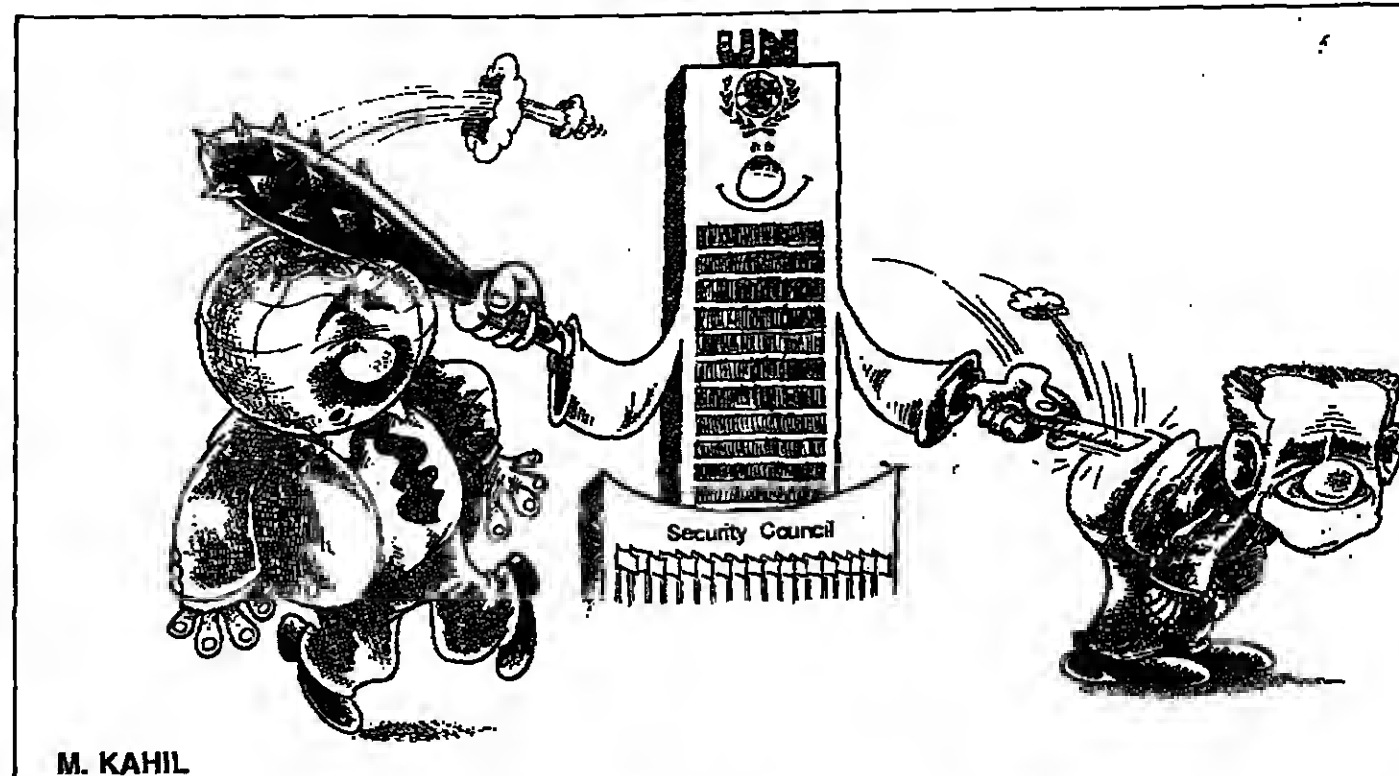
The emergence of democracy and human rights as prominent issues on the global agenda is clearly linked to the end of the cold war. The West saw its victory over the Soviet Union as the result of a superior ideology and social system. If the powerful Soviet bloc had to capitulate in the face of western ideas and organisation, how could the rest of the world resist the tide?

The collapse of communism also persuaded the West that it had a moral duty to foster respect for democracy and human rights.

But the West does this inconsistently. It has criticised Burma for turning back from the democratic road, but it has remained largely silent on Algeria. In Peru, as in Algeria, there was a spectacular reversal in the trend towards democratisation. Peru was punished with sanctions. Algeria was not.

European governments calculated that sanctions would further destabilise a volatile situation and intensify the flow of Algerian refugees into France, Spain and Italy. While cynically condemning the coup in Algeria, most western governments quietly welcomed it as being in western interests.

Peru was farther away from any western society than Algeria. So while sanctions would be equally destabilising, they were imposed.



Westerners surely should have asked: What kind of authoritarian government is President Alberto Fujimori imposing? Is he going to become another Ferdinand Marcos and enrich himself at his country's expense, or is he desperately trying to reverse course in a society under vicious attack by Marxist terrorists and on the verge of breakdown?

If current western policies had been in force in the 1950s and '60s, the dynamic economic growth and gradual democratisation of Taiwan and South Korea could have been cut off before they had a chance to develop, by the demand that authoritarian governments be dismantled.

This pattern of inconsistencies

and double standards devalues the merit of western human rights policies. Asians notice the selective application of moral principles.

Would the West be as tough on the regime in Peking if China were located, say, where Mexico is? Would the West be as sanguine about the prospects of millions of boat people sailing from China if the regime there broke down and chaos prevailed?

The Algerian experience introduces another complication. Democracies work all too well in bringing out the true social and cultural face of a society. In Algeria, the centuries-old Islamic heritage had been suppressed by secular and modern values intro-

duced by the post-colonial elite. That Islamic heritage is now surfacing, and it will probably surface in other Islamic societies that hold democratic elections. If governments elected by popular mandate impose Islamic laws that restrict some western notions of human rights, would the West respect their right to decide their own values and practices?

The post cold war euphoria that led to aggressive western promotion of human rights and democracy appears to be diminishing. The West is realising that the end of Communist governments has not necessarily led to better lives for the citizens of the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Marshal Dmitri Yazov, former Soviet defence minister, told a western general: "Mark my words. When we lift our Soviet boots off the Soviet Central Asian countries there will be bloodshed and conflict."

Some western statesmen have begun to recognise that the West should be cautious in promoting rapid democratisation.

Helmut Schmidt, the former chancellor of West Germany, said recently that "perhaps the West must admit to itself that people living in firmly rooted traditions can be thoroughly happy even without the democratic structures that we Euro-Americans consider indispensable. Therefore we should not ask China to profess democracy, but we should insist on respect of the person, personal dignity and rights."

Governments of the Asian South East Asian can agree that all members of the group — Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand — adhere to certain basic standards of human rights.

There should be no slavery, arbitrary killings, disappearances or shooting innocent demonstrators. Rights should be upheld not only as well as moral. Any society that is at odds with itself and brightest and them down when they de rate peacefully, as happens Burma in 1988, is head trouble. None of the Asian countries want to be in a nation that Burma is in. ASEAN members undertake a comprehensive view of the human rights issues propounded by the. Some we can agree to do. For example, Amnesty national condemns all of that allow capital punishment including the United States there, is a counterargument: that the absence of punishment can lead to innocent lives being lost to criminal activities. Singapore and Malaysia, which have ended race riots in the past, the effect that an inflamed racial speech can have. ASEAN can make to restrict freedom of speech.

The biggest contribution ASEAN can make here encourage the West to be in discussing the complex of democracy and human rights. The West should admit to promotes these principles suits western interests. would permit a more honest dialogue between with Asia sensitive area. Each side have something to learn from other — International Herald Tribune.

Palestinian police, the interim test

By Gershon Baskin

THE primary purpose of the interim period in an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians is to allow the two sides to disengage from decades of conflict and begin to develop trust.

From our perspective, this period is also supposed to take on the character of a test. If the Palestinians are successful in taking control of their lives, and if the level of violence decreases, then we can discuss further separation and territorial issues.

During the interim period, the Palestinians are supposed to take full control of their daily lives. They will run their own educational system, health care, taxation, housing, welfare, municipal affairs and even a small police force. It is certainly in our interest not to get involved in these internal Palestinian affairs.

We don't care, nor should we care about the internal civil affairs of the Palestinians. They should not even be an issue for negotiations.

One major question remains: Is the ability of the Palestinians to run their civil services a relevant test? The answer is clearly an emphatic no. If they provide good health care or bad health care; if the educational system produces scientists or dropouts — that is their problem.

The only relevant issue from our perspective is in the realm of internal security. Only when the Palestinians can prove they are capable of controlling their own population, that they can prevent hostile acts against their own regime and against us, will it be clear that we can make full peace.

The issue of internal security is not on the agenda for negotia-

tions. Our position is that during the entire period of the interim agreement, we will retain full control over all aspects of security.

The small Palestinian police force (about 1,000 men) will deal solely with matters of criminal law and order. They will give out traffic tickets and investigate robberies. They will not be in charge of riot or crowd control. They will have no responsibility for or ability to protect the Palestinian self-governing authority.

Israeli soldiers, Border Police and General Security Service agents will maintain the same high profile in the future as they have today.

There are 110,000 settlers and some 150 settlements for which the government must guarantee security. If there were no Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza, we could withdraw the troops, the Border Police and the GSS and tell the Palestinians: "Sink or swim."

But we sent the settlers there, and we must protect them. If Israel has to maintain the same military-security presence and profile in the West Bank and Gaza during the interim period, however, nothing will change.

Our security grip on the territories and on the lives of their residents is overwhelming. Road blocks, curfews, permits, identity cards, night searches and more are all part of the daily encounter between our security apparatus and the Palestinian residents of the West Bank and Gaza. All these are necessary evils if we want to maintain control of the territories and protect Israel and

Israelis.

We are in a Catch-22 situation. We want to disengage from the Palestinian population and increase our level of security. We want to test the Palestinians' ability to run their own affairs. The only test of relevance is that of internal security, but we can't decrease our security presence because we need to protect the settlers.

The Palestinians are also in a difficult position. Autonomy without control over security issues is a half-empty glass indeed. If, however, Palestinians took over internal security affairs, how would they cope with internal divisions which could threaten the existence of the Palestinian regime?

Would a Palestinian police force interrogate political opponents? Would a Palestinian authority institute administrative detention? Could a Palestinian regime hold political prisoners? Can the Palestinians create an effective and obedient chain of command?

Israeli and Palestinian security experts estimate that the Palestinians would need a police force numbering 18,000 to 20,000 people. There would have to be an effective and well-trained intelligence apparatus. There would have to be a liaison mechanism between Israeli authorities and the Palestinian force.

The only way that we could agree to the existence of such a force is if we retained control over the security of the settlers and the settlements and had the full cooperation of the Palestinian police. There is a possibility that our security presence could gra-

dually decline if the Palestinian police force were an effective one. A mutuality of security understandings could pave the way for future agreement on this issue.

It is our interest to see that matters of internal security are transferred to the Palestinians as soon as possible. When they have to prevent fundamentalists from attacking Israel or Israelis, we will be able to judge to what extent coexistence is possible.

Two fundamental principles must be accepted: transference of security responsibilities to the Palestinians will be gradual, and the process will begin in certain locations and not throughout the territories.

The establishment of an internal security police force, its training and the creation of an effective chain of command will take three to five years. Gradually, it might be possible to turn over certain limited areas to Palestinian security control. If they succeed in one locale another area could be added.

Palestinian success in controlling the population and preventing violence would signal that agreement on broader issues is possible. Our failure to put the Palestinians to the test means that Palestinian autonomy will be an irrelevant exercise in a process which will not result in peaceful coexistence.

The writer is International Director of the Israel/Palestine Centre for Research and Information, Jerusalem. The article is reprinted from the Jerusalem Post.

LETTERS

We could contribute too

To the Editor:

I applaud Hind-Lara Mango's article "Children's festival cludes" (Jordan Times, Nov. 15, 1992) and the diverse issues raises.

I was bemused by the remark attributed to Wafa Qasab "all professionals were contacted by the Ministry of Culture participate in January."

What constitutes a professional in the eyes of the mind? Upon what set of norms were people presumed professional? I ask this question perhaps as a lone voice, but a voice belonging to one who has been writing and directing child drama for twenty years, as well as using Drama in Education as a method of teaching. Nine of these years I spent in Jordan.

Sadly, I missed the closing date for entry; I would have welcomed the chance to participate had I heard of the event between January and July!

Now, what was I doing to miss the summer closing date? I in Portugal representing Jordan at the first International Congress on Drama in Education and Theatre. Irony, isn't it?

Let not the ministry shun those of us who are Jordanians by birth but by marriage; our passports carry the same crown as our hearts the same loyalty.

Our contributions to this society are unique and enriching. Lesser Jordanians are we, ignore not our gifts.

There may be more than one talented "foreign" Jordan playwright out there, outside the theatre, looking to, waiting to their part or lead the way, like myself, not for glory or prizes, as we do in our daily working life: for the sake of our Jordan children.

Edwina A. Issa,
Head of performing arts in
theatre manager,
New English School,
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only on request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

Project promotes efficiency in Jordanian education

The following article is reprinted on the September-October issue of the Newsletter of the Commission of the European Communities in Jordan.

STAFF AT the Ministry of Education will be the focus of the new EC-funded Education Improvement Project for which an agreement was signed recently in Amman. The project is an integral part of the Ministry's Seventh Education Project, which is designed to improve the quality, relevance and cost efficiency of Jordan's education system.

Head of Technical Assistance at the Ministry of Education, Dr. Mohammad Atiyeh, says HEDCO worked successfully with the ministry on the technical assistance element of their Fifth Education Project and he is happy to welcome them back to Jordan for the new project.

For HEDCO General Secretary John Lynch the return to Jordan is also welcome. In addition to the Fifth Education Project, the organisation has also participated in the EC-funded Faculty of Engineering and Technology Project at Jordan University and the development of the Madaba Industrial School.

This experience has given HEDCO a good understanding of Jordan's education system and its needs. In at least one case, a consultant who was in Jordan for the Fifth Project will be returning — at the specific request of the ministry.

At the same time, the Irish education system has expanded rapidly over the past twenty years, especially in the further and higher technical education areas, managing to achieve high academic standards on modest development budgets. As many of those who developed the system are still working they are available to share their experience.

Dr. Atiyeh, who was in Ireland for training under the Fifth Project, says both the Irish and the Jordanian systems are British-oriented and it is easy to move from one to the other. He wasn't even worried by the Irish accents — Jordanians can adapt quickly to the accent, he says.

Technical assistance has been part of all the ministry's development projects which first began in 1972 in the wake of the influx of refugees from the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Since then their seven expansion programmes have all included a component to upgrade the quality of the system as well as its size.

Overhaul
Dr. Atiyeh explains that the Seventh Project has a particular emphasis on the improvement of quality as a result of the November 1987 national conference on education. This called for a complete overhaul of the system to make it more relevant to Jordan's economic and social needs.

What it spelled out was Jordan's need for an education system that could afford to maintain and one that would produce graduates able to find jobs in an increasingly competitive world.

The conference called for new approaches to introduce cost effective teacher upgrading at the primary and secondary level, to improve the quality and availability of instructional materials, the responsiveness of vocational training to Jordan's skilled manpower needs, the quality, cost effectiveness and maintenance of physical facilities, and to strengthen educational management and the measurement and evaluation aspects of the education system.

Training
Dr. Atiyeh says that over the next three years the new project will tackle all these areas through the provision of short term training for ministry staff in Europe and of consultants to conduct in-service training in Jordan.

For the first phase training actions have already been identified for teaching, administrative and technical staff in areas ranging from education television and animation techniques, to managers for audio-visual centres, nursing, dressmaking and weaving instructions, and procurement officers and quantity surveyors.

In the second phase consultants from Europe will conduct in-service training in the areas of examinations, educational technology, vocational education, planning, development and educational research, school buildings, and the ministry's computer centre.

Similarities

Mr. Lynch points out that there are also similarities between Ireland and Jordan, both in terms of society in general and the education system in particular, which helps the cooperation to run smoothly.

A small population, and one which still has strong ties to its rural roots and close personal relationships, is the starting point. In the educational sphere Ireland has been plagued by the same shortage of jobs that Jordan

U.S. firms head for Vietnam in hope of new ties

By Kathleen Callo
Reuters

WASHINGTON — American companies are scrambling to visit Vietnam in the hope of securing a new trade agreement with the communist north.

U.S. oil companies hope Vietnam will delay its selection of a foreign partner to develop the Dai Hung (big bear) off-shore oil field long enough to allow them to bid.

Many other U.S. companies, eyeing Vietnamese prospects in telecommunications, banking, construction and other fields have been encouraged by Japan's resumption of development aid to Hanoi on November 6 after a 14-year suspension.

That signalled Japan would no longer back Washington's policy to deny Hanoi much-needed loans from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

"American businessmen" say they were also heartened by last week's easing of restrictions on telephone links between the United States and Vietnam which they saw as another sign that sanctions could soon be lifted.

Three different American chambers of commerce have visited Vietnam in the past week, and growing numbers of U.S. businessmen have been checking into the 109-room Metropole, Hanoi's only luxury hotel, said Manager Ricardo Perran.

"We have had a lot of Americans, but we can't offer them all rooms because we're too small," Mr. Perran said.

"Quite a few principals (in the United States) are interested in looking at this market. This market is completely new to them," James Hsieh Fu Tien, manager of the U.S. Trade Office that opened in Hanoi in July, told Reuters.

Vietnam's Minister for Cooperation and Investment, Dau Ngoc Xuan said in Singapore last month that U.S. firms were queuing up to invest in his country.

"Hundreds of U.S. companies are preparing to enter Vietnam, planning investments of millions of dollars," he said.

While executives from France, Australia, South Korea, Taiwan and other non-communist countries are busy doing business in Vietnam, Washington allows Americans to visit but prohibits them from signing any contracts except those meeting humanitarian needs.

U.S. citizens are not permitted to write cheques in Vietnam on American banks or use U.S. credit cards, a point of growing frustration for credit card giant, American Express.

"We've got a lot of customers coming to Vietnam and we want to serve them," Scott Armstrong, vice president and general manager of American Express travel related services for Thailand, said in Hanoi.

Some American businessmen feared locals would be hostile because of the Vietnam war but were pleasantly surprised to find the opposite was true.

"I came here thinking negotiations would be difficult and protracted, yet I find them (the Vietnamese) open, friendly and innovative," said Michael Powell of Powell's Books of Portland, Oregon, who sold a container of 20,000 books to a state-run store in Ho Chi Minh city this year.

That was the first U.S. commercial shipment to Vietnam since the war ended in 1975. The embargo does not cover the sale of books or other information materials.

Gary Goforth, president of a telephone company in Costa Mesa, California, said: "The Vietnamese really want to do business with people in the United States. I have yet to meet a Vietnamese who didn't do everything to extend himself."

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Rabin criticises military leaks leading to hysteria

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Friday slammed the biggest and most influential "AN" can make my generals for contributing to hysteria following a serious accident that killed five army officers and soldiers.

West should be warned senior officers that they would not hesitate to use a lie to protect their position, he said.

The missile that mistakenly hit an elite military unit on November 5 has caused an uproar in Israel, where there is universal grief and long term reserve duty.

The issue has made front-page headlines almost daily. The debate has centred on the issue of responsibility and has sparked blame-calling within the army command.

Left-wing politicians in the government have alleged an army cover-up to protect senior generals.

"There is full justification for criticism of the army, but not hysteria," Mr. Rabin said on Israel Television. "Today it is on the verge of hysteria, on the basis of information that is not credible and that is inaccurate."

During his successful election campaign, Mr. Clinton staked out a strong pro-Israel position. He also promised a get-tough policy on Syria and its role in Lebanon.

However, since his election, the president-elect has pledged a large measure of continuity in Middle East policy and expressed determination to push ahead strongly with the peace process.

Jordan presents Israel

(Continued from page 1)

FLP) and the radical wing of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), boycotting the meeting.

Syria's chief Mideast negotiator also said his country would consider its participation in peace talks with Israel if there is no progress in the first four months of the incoming Clinton administration.

Chief Palestinian delegate to the talks has earlier threatened to pull out of the peace process if Clinton did not succeed in breaking the current deadlock.

Three or four months after the arrival of the new president to the White House, I think the Arab parties, if they see the peace process continuing without progress, then it would be time to consider the whole thing," said a Jordanian negotiator Mouwafak Al-Hajj.

Palestinian delegate Haider Abdul Shafi said: "Certainly if we don't get anywhere, and especially after the inauguration of the American administration, they have to evaluate the situation and see whether it is any more profitable to continue with this peace process."

He called on the United States to put pressure on Israel to make concessions, saying it was the only way to rescue the talks from failure.

"If Israel maintains this position, certainly we are going to stay in deadlock and that means that the peace process is going to break," said Dr. Abdul Shafi.

What is required now for the sponsor to do what it is supposed to do. Some pressure should be exerted on Israel.

During his successful election campaign, Mr. Clinton staked out a strong pro-Israel position. He also promised a get-tough policy on Syria and its role in Lebanon.

However, since his election, the president-elect has pledged a large measure of continuity in Middle East policy and expressed determination to push ahead strongly with the peace process.

In the last round of talks, several parties appeared to hold back any substantive movement until the Clinton team takes over next Jan. 20.

Mr. Shafi this month marked the second anniversary of his government, which has a solid majority in parliament.

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Sudden-death shoot-out may feature in World Cup

SYDNEY (R) — FIFA's experimental sudden-death shoot-out plans for eliminating sterile draws from international soccer may be introduced at the 1994 World Cup if successful at next year's World Youth Championship in Australia.

The International Football Federation hopes sudden death, in which the first team to score in the usual 30-minute extra time period wins, will encourage attacking tactics from coaches otherwise tempted to play for a penalty shoot-out.

FIFA General Secretary Sepp Blatter said in Sydney: "This (rule) will invite the coaches when going into extra time to try to win the match and not to go for penalty kicks so that they are not blamed for any defeat."

Turkey were one of the first sides to benefit from the new rule, which was tested by the European Soccer Union (UEFA) at this year's European Youth Championship finals. Turkey

beat Portugal in the final with a sudden-death goal after 10 minutes of extra-time.

Under the experimental rules, which FIFA President Joao Havelange announced Tuesday would be introduced at a world tournament for the first time, knockout stage matches level at the end of extra time are still decided on penalties.

Guido Tognoni, FIFA's public relations officer, said: "We still have the feeling that the penalty shoot-out is part of the game. World football is used to it, but we want to try to play the game more offensively."

"The under-20 World Youth Championship is the second most important tournament and as we would not want to experiment in the World Cup, this is the ideal place to witness this test."

Tognoni said if the experiment was successful it would be considered for the World Cup in the United States.

German Track Federation stands by Krabbe suspension

DIERHAGEN, Germany (AP) — The German Track Federation decided Friday to follow international rules requiring a four-year suspension for world sprint champion Katrin Krabbe because she had taken a banned drug.

However, while saying its hands were tied regarding the four-year suspension rule, the track federation said it would apply to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) to have Krabbe's ban dropped by the end of 1993.

The German federation said such a move would be in compliance with basic rights in Germany, which normally do not apply the highest penalty in first offense cases.

Meanwhile in London, IAAF spokeswoman Jayne Pearce, commenting on news of the German decision said "we are pleased that the IAAF rules have been upheld and that the penalty for this drug, clenbuterol, is four years. We were concerned that it would be reduced to two years or even less."

If even the ban ended in December 1993, that would mean Krabbe would not be able to defend the 100 and 200 metre world titles she won in Tokyo last year. Next year the World Championships are staged in Stuttgart, Germany.

Krabbe and two other German

women runners had admitted taking the drug clenbuterol but said they did not know it was banned.

Some experts have questioned whether the drug has the muscle-building effects of banned anabolic steroids. But the world governing body for track and field, the International Amateur Athletic Federation, upheld the ban on clenbuterol in a decision Nov. 17 and said violators should be suspended for four years.

Krabbe, 22 said in a German television interview before Friday's ruling she hoped to be treated fairly and get at most a two-year ban.

But the German federation announced after a meeting of its leadership in Dierhagen that it was bound by IAAF rules to ban Krabbe, Grit Breuer and Manuela Berr for four years. The three runners trained together with the Neubrandenburg Track Club.

The ruling can be appealed to the federation's legal committee, which lifted an earlier suspension of Krabbe, Breuer and Silke Moeller. They had been accused of manipulating urine samples that were to be tested for drug abuse.

Krabbe did not compete in the Barcelona Olympics, but during the summer games she tested positively for clenbuterol and again was suspended.

Courier overcomes Sampras to reach final

FRANKFURT (Agencies) — World No. 1 Jim Courier took revenge on defending champion Pete Sampras to reach the final of the ATP World Championship Saturday.

Courier, recovering from a poor start in the Inactive tournament, needed two tie breaks to overcome Sampras 7-6 7-6 in a re-run of last year's final.

Courier will meet either local favorite Boris Becker or hard-hitting Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia in Sunday's final.

World number three Sampras, who had won all three of his round robin matches, did not give his opponent a single break point in a tense first set.

But Courier undermined his determination by saving two set points with two aces at 4-5 to force a tie break which he took 7-5.

He went on to take Sampras's serve early in the second set, but the holder fought back to break Courier thanks to some blistering returns and leveled at 3-3.

However, Sampras, struggling to maintain his usually efficient first serve, had to yield as impressive Courier fired 17 aces.

Sampras, who had beaten Courier six times in seven encounters, made 23 unforced errors, the last one a forehand into the net on match point, to give Courier the tie break 7-4.

"I just went out there and whacked the ball," said Courier, who had struggled to beat Dutchman Richard Krajicek in his opening match before falling to Ivanisevic in straight sets.

"I hit the ball solid and served pretty well. I had a difficult start but I'm playing better."

Courier is certain to retain his number one spot after Stefan



Pete Sampras



Jim Courier

Edberg failed to qualify for the semifinals of the year-end event featuring the world's top eight players.

"It wasn't bothering me too much but it's nice," said Courier, who is the first American to finish the year as number one since John McEnroe in 1984.

Courier, the only player to win

two Grand Slam titles this season — the Australian and the French Open — became No. 1 on Feb. 10 and held it for six weeks, before Edberg regained it.

The American took the top spot again on April 13, held it for 22 weeks, and regained it from Edberg again Sept. 14.

Courier shares the lead on the tour with Sampras at five tournament victories this season.

Edberg said Courier deserved to finish the year as No. 1 because he was the only player to win two Grand Slam titles.

"Looking back, he has been the best player," Edberg said.

Olympic champion Popov in sprint spree

ESPOO, Finland (R) — Double Olympic champion Alexander Popov, who dethroned American hero Matt Biondi at the Barcelona Games, puts his explosive power to the test at the European sprint swimming championships this weekend.

Popov, who captured Biondi's Olympic 50 and 100 metres freestyle titles, defends the 50 freestyle crown he won at the inaugural clash of the continent's sprint specialists in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, last December.

Popov and his Russian team mates are the strongest all-round force in the men's events, while Germany should dominate the women's races as they did on home territory last time.

Vasily Ivanov defends his 50 breaststroke title against competitor Dmitry Volkov, who holds the world best time for the event, while European long-course gold medalist Vladislav Kulikov contests the butterfly and Gennadi Prigoda chases Popov in the freestyle.

They all swim for Russia but several of their former team



Alexander Popov

mates from the old Soviet Union and the short-lived era of the Commonwealth of Independent States now compete for rival

countries. Fourteen-year-old Franziska van Almsick, who won four medals in the 50-metre Olympic pool

in Barcelona, showed her talent was equally adapted to sprinting in 25-metre pools when she set a world short-course record for the 50 freestyle earlier this month.

She lines up for Germany with three defending champions — Simone Osiyus (freestyle), Sandra Voelker (backstroke) and Peggy Hartung (breaststroke) — in a squad which let only two of the seven mouth's titles escape its clutches in Gelsenkirchen.

Inge de Bruijn of the Netherlands and Louise Karlsson of Sweden — the two women who prevented a German sweep — respectively defend their butterfly and individual medley titles.

The most notable absentee is Hungary, who — with Krisztina Egervari and Tamas Darnyi outstanding — shone in the summer sunshine of Barcelona but are skipping the sprint championships for the second year.

"Last year we did not participate because we were preparing for the Olympic Games," Hungarian Swimming Federation Vice-President Peter Hauer said. "This year our swimmers deserved a break to rest after the games."

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Best Arab sportsmen to be chosen

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Sports Department of the British Broadcasting Corporation's Arabic Service has invited Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein and Minister of Youth Saleh Alshaidat to Cairo to attend the prize-giving ceremony for the best Arab athletes of the year. Hassiba Boulmerka, who won the 1,500 metre gold medal at the Barcelona Olympics, has been chosen as best sportsman, while the best sportsman award is still contested by Khaled Skah and Rashid Basir of Morocco, Noureddin Morceli of Algeria, and Mohammad Sulaiman of Qatar.

Knee problems put NBA centre on injured list

RICHFIELD, Ohio (AP) — The Cleveland Cavaliers placed centre Brad Daugherty on the injured list because of tendinitis and bursitis in his left knee. To replace Daugherty, the Cavaliers activated rookie centre Jay Gaudin, who started the season on the injured list while he continued knee rehabilitation. By NBA rules, Daugherty must sit out at least five more games. He flew back to Cleveland after missing games in Portland and Sacramento, both losses. He also sat out the final 27 minutes of their overtime win at Golden State Thursday.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
AND TANNIA HIRSCH
©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THE KING IS DEAD

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 8 2
♥ 8 4
♦ A Q 10 4
♣ J 6 4

EAST
♠ K Q 10 6 4
♥ 9 7 5
♦ K J 3
♣ K 7 6 5

SOUTH
♠ 3
♥ J 2
♦ A Q 10 8 7 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass 1 ♠ Pass Pass
2 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
Sometimes, all the salient features of a hand can be determined even before you play the first trick. Cover up the East-West cards and decide whether you can equal South's performance at a contract of five clubs after the lead of the king of spades.

South did not feel the quality of the club suit quite merited a vulner-

able three-club preempt. However, when North showed a good club raise with the spade cue-bid, South jumped in clubs and North elected to raise to game because of the diamond honors behind the bidder.

West led the king of spades and the hand was soon over. Declarer won the first trick in dummy with the ace, led the jack of clubs and, when East followed low, shot up with the ace to fill the king. With the king of diamonds outside, declarer lost only two heart tricks.

No, South was not a pecker. Neither was declarer a disciple of The Rabbit, who formulated the rule: "When the king is singleton, play the ace." Declarer had good reason for spurning the percentage play of the club finesse in favor of the drop.

Had West held both the ace and king of hearts, the defender almost certainly would have selected a high heart as the opening lead rather than the king of spades from a holding headed by K Q 10 at best. And since East did not respond to West's opening bid, that defender could not hold the king of clubs in addition to a high heart. Ergo: West held the king of clubs, and the only chance for the contract was to find it singleton.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Four

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An ideal day to use your boundless energy to best advantage in your own interests and to avoid wasting your time on projects and personalities that don't seem to be proving worthwhile.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Try to make any trips or visits early in the day and get them behind you before some unexpected situation arises causing you a definite change in plans.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can think out better arrangements whereby you have repairs and improvements made to whatever your property and possessions, so be alert to these.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Consider well what your personal wants and needs are early in the day and start the action towards gaining them even though there are unavoidable interruptions.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You are restless to make some changes and would be wise to make notations of those that seep through your consciousness for they are good for you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your own intimate aims should take precedence early in the day. Even though some revisions in plans may be necessary, stick to original purpose.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get out early in the day to interests that you like to with and later you can see activities by which to occupy time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You need a fresh view and you should awake with inspiration that then come later do other things.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get up early and things that you and you want like to do the most, you find equally interesting other directions.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) This is the year to let a logical mind see what you feel your progress should consist, focus in new a plan.

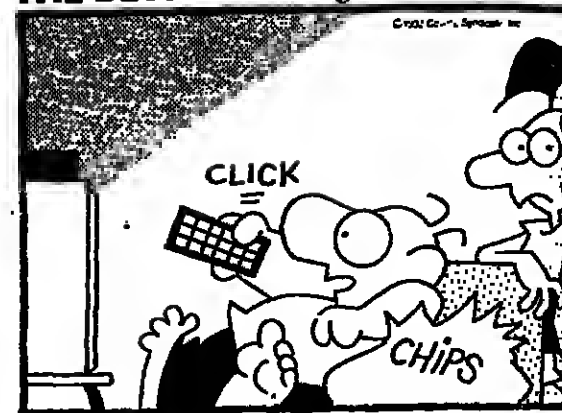
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You can engage activities which bring you of an accomplishing as don't call it work but enjoy thoroughly.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Take some time or indulge in the recreations entertainments that attract that a day gives you time use of your time.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A happy time at home your family early in the day be most gratifying even late you will have to ad-difference of opinion.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Har



"Our marriage counselor said we should do something outrageous of a week. So, let's watch Channel 7 instead of Channel 7!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Take a lot of courage

WHAT YOU HAVE TO BE IN ORDER TO STUDY THE HARP.

Now arrange the circled letters from the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

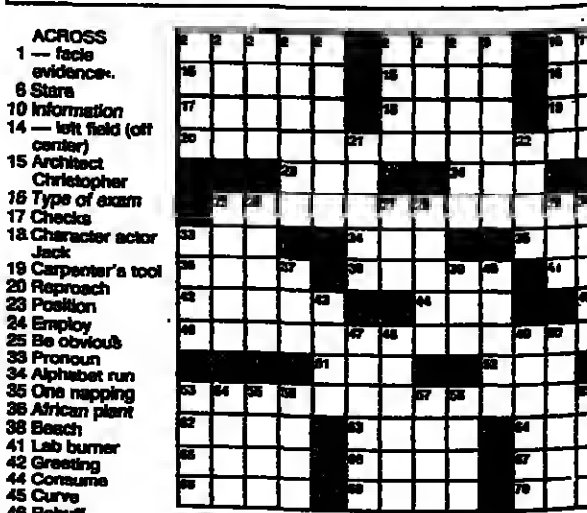
Print answer here: "OOOOO-C"

(Answers More)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ACUTE SAUTE JAGUAR DAHLIA

Answer: What they did when he claimed to be the world's greatest comedian — JUST LAUGHED AT HIM

THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Witts



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Puzzle Solution

ACROSS

1 Face

2 Face

3 Face

4 Face

5 Face

6 Face

7 Face

8 Face

9 Face

10 Face

11 Face

12 Face

13 Face

14 Face

15 Face

16 Face

17 Face

18 Face

19 Face

20 Face

Fears for refugees as extra troops defend Bosnian city

SARAJEVO (R) — Croat and Muslim forces have thrown 6,000 extra troops into the defence of the strategic Bosnian town being overwhelmed by a Serb offensive, United Nations peacekeeping sources said Saturday.

Intense shelling forced residents to take refuge in basements overnight and humanitarian aid officials voiced alarm about a potential tragedy for thousands of refugees congregated around Travnik.

"They have nowhere else to go," one senior relief official said. "Croatia's capacity to take refugees is exhausted. If the worst comes to the worst, these people have no future."

The flood of refugees of all ages driven from their war zones has swollen Travnik's population to around 70,000 people, many of them starving in the open in freezing temperatures.

The Bosnian Serb army launched its artillery assault Friday with the apparent aim of taking the town and opening a new corridor to Sarajevo.

Travnik, an historic town with many buildings dating from Turkish rule, is only 80 kilometres west of the Bosnian capital which has been under Serb siege for seven months.

Its capture would put British U.N. troops, using nearby Vitez as a base for relief operations in central Bosnia, within easy range of Serb field guns.

The Serbs claimed they had captured the villages of Sescije and Potkraj near Travnik and laid

a heavy artillery barrage on its suburb of Turbe.

Croat and Muslim commanders, who admit Travnik will fall if Turbe is captured, have dug a secondary line of defence near the town during the last few days.

The U.N. sources said the fighting quality of the extra 6,000 men now committed to defending Turbe and Travnik was not known but their chances of success were not rated high.

"We expect Turbe to fall early next week," said Major Andrew Vitez, a British officer in Vitez where the bombardment could be clearly heard.

British soldiers escorting a U.N. aid convoy from Vitez to Tuzla Saturday were equipped with protective suits and gas masks after town officials confirmed that a chlorine gas plant was leaking after being hit by shelling.

Tuzla's mayor denied the leak was dangerous but a hazard warning was issued in the town where up to 200,000 people are in desperate need of help after being besieged by Serb forces since April.

Bosnian authorities have long been concerned about the danger of damage to the chlorine plant. Large doses of the gas, which was used as a chemical weapon during World War I, cause lung congestion.

Serb forces have intensified their attacks on Muslim-held towns in northern and central Bosnia in recent days despite agreeing to a ceasefire on Nov. 12.

Like Travnik, most of the

targets are on the inner perimeter of a horseshoe of land, comprising about 70 per cent of Bosnian territory, where Serbs have taken sole control since rebelling against Bosnian independence.

Capturing the towns and expelling their Muslim populations would consolidate the new independent state the Serbs want to create.

Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio said Serb artillery units shelled Gradacac, Olovo, Maglaj and Muslim targets near Brcko during the night and Saturday morning.

A Reuters correspondent who crossed the northern land corridor controlled by the Bosnian Serb army saw heavy reinforcements of fresh troops being taken towards Gradacac and Brcko Friday.

Many appeared to have been brought from the Serb-held Krajina enclave in neighbouring Croatia.

Sarajevo Radio broadcast warnings that snipers were active all over the Bosnian capital after overnight attacks on Muslim districts by Serb artillery, mortars and heavy machineguns.

Six international aid flights were unable to land because fog interrupted operations at the airport.

Serb army commanders accused Croat forces in southeast Bosnia of breaking the ceasefire by shelling villages near Trebinje Friday and during the night.

Meanwhile, mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen ended a two-day visit to Croatia Friday without convincing

Serbs to comply with a U.N. peace accord in the Serb-held Krajina region.

"We made very little progress... there are no changes," was all that Mr. Vance would say at Zagreb Airport as the two chairmen of the Geneva conference on Yugoslavia boarded their plane.

Earlier Friday at a meeting in Erdut, in Serb-held Croatia, he described the situation as "bleak."

"The situation which has been presented here is very difficult. It is a bleak situation, in many ways, but I think some progress has been made," the U.N. special envoy told reporters.

The two men were in Croatia for a first-hand study of reasons for the failure of Mr. Vance's plan for demilitarisation of three U.N. protection areas captured by rebel Serbs last year.

The Serbs Thursday refused to accept demilitarisation, arguing it would leave them open to Croat attack, in particular after the Yugoslav federal army withdrew from their territories.

"A demilitarisation is out of the question," Knin Radio reported Bozo Martinovic, a local Serb official, as saying. Knin is the seat of the Krajina region and long a thorn in the side of nationalist Croats.

The Serbs insist on the right to self-determination and to choose the state where they want to live, arguing that Croatian secession from Yugoslavia last year has deprived them of their own country.

UNITA absent from Angola national unity congress

LUANDA (R) — Angola, haunted by fears of renewed civil war since its first multi-party elections in September, held a national unity congress Saturday but the UNITA opposition movement failed to turn up.

The MPLA government, which won a healthy parliamentary majority in the disputed elections, said the former rebel movement had been invited to the meeting to discuss formation of a national unity government and other issues.

"They did not respond," armed forces commander General Antonio Franca "N'dalu" told reporters.

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, who lost many of his top aides in fierce fighting in Luanda three weeks ago, has been seeking safety guarantees for UNITA delegates.

UNITA officials in Lisbon and Washington said the group would only attend if political prisoners were released and UNITA officials in government custody since the Luanda fighting were allowed to participate, conditions rejected by authorities.

The U.N. special representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, said she had offered an airplane to pick up UNITA officials in Huambo, the group's headquarters

in the central highlands, and to provide security.

"It is unfortunate they are not here. We are not going to get very far without participation of all parties," she told Reuters.

But she said a high-level government delegation, probably headed by Gen. N'dalu, planned to visit Mr. Savimbi in Huambo next week and this was promising.

Diplomats said the government had done little to facilitate UNITA's participation and was keen to form a new administration quickly to deal with the UNITA military threat.

A dozen small parties and the

ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) attended the meeting, opened by President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos in a Luanda conference hall.

Mr. Savimbi rejected the Sept. 29-30 poll as rigged and mobilised his troops.

Since then, UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has occupied over 60 per cent of Angolan territory in violation of May 1991 peace accords. Thousands of people died in fighting earlier this month, raising fears of renewed civil war.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Former KGB head points finger at CIA

ROME (AP) — A former head of the KGB denied Soviet involvement in the 1981 shooting of Pope John Paul II in an interview published Friday, pointing his finger instead at the CIA and other Western secret services. "I never found even a trace of our involvement in the attack on the Pope," Leonid Shebarshin told the Italian daily Corriere Della Sera. "My personal conviction is that it was a covert operation by the CIA, in collaboration with other 'sister services'." CIA spokesman Peter Earnest said: "Any allegation that the CIA was involved in any way in the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II is absolute nonsense." Mr. Shebarshin, head of the KGB's foreign operations from 1989-91 and briefly head of the Soviet Secret Service from August 1991 till its dissolution later that year, told the newspaper that he had no proof of his accusations. But he was quoted as saying he could see "no other motive for the shooting" than implicating the Bulgarians and the KGB in order "to turn Catholics against us."

Clinton discussed jobs with lawmakers

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (R) — Aides to President-Elect Bill Clinton discussed possible cabinet appointments with an assortment of lawmakers this week and have not singled out Senator Lloyd Bentsen for treasury secretary, a spokeswoman said Friday. "There were a wide variety of subjects discussed with Senator Bentsen, various cabinet positions, various qualifications that we would be looking for," Max Parker told Reuters. "Those same discussions were held with a variety of people on the Hill (Congress) but I'm not going to get into names," she said. News reported Thursday that Mr. Clinton's transition director, Warren Christopher had talked over the powerful treasury portfolio with Sen. Bentsen during Mr. Clinton's two-day trip to Washington that ended on Thursday night. Asked if his name had come up in connection with the top economic job, Sen. Bentsen said: "Yes, and I told him (Christopher) that I'm not seeking a position, I'm happy where I am." The influential Texas Democrat, a vice presidential candidate four years ago, chairs the Senate Finance Committee and wields immense power over tax policy on Capitol Hill.

1 killed, scores hurt in Bangladesh storm

DHAKA (R) — One woman was killed and nearly 50 people were injured when a storm Saturday flattened or blew away hundreds of houses on Saint Martin's Island in the Bay of Bengal, relief officials said. They said dozens of homes were also damaged in Teknaf, Bangladesh's southernmost district when winds gusting up to 60 kph (37 mph) battered the area. Rows of plastic and bamboo-made shanties in camps for Burmese refugees near Cox's Bazar were also blown down but officials said none of the refugees had died. Cox's Bazar is temporary home to nearly 300,000 Burmese Rohingya refugees fleeing alleged military persecution. "The number of casualties may go up when detailed reports from all the affected areas will be available," one official at Cox's Bazar said, adding that he still believed very few lives would be lost.

Greece becomes WEU's 10th member

ROME (R) — Greece Friday became the 10th member of the Western European Union (WEU) defence grouping, an Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Rules about the defence of any WEU member that 18 attacked had to be changed last June to make sure the group was not drawn into any conflict with Greece's historic rival, Turkey. This had long been the main obstacle to Greek membership. On Friday, Turkey became an associate member of the WEU. The Greek entry will not become official until it has been ratified by the parliaments of the other nine members. The WEU parliamentary assembly warned Wednesday that ratification would depend on Greece's record in enforcing U.N. sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia.

Mother's death is new blow to Bush

WASHINGTON (AP) — For President George Bush, a time of political loss has also become a time of personal grief. As his mother, Dorothy Walker Bush, died Thursday, the president was deep in the melancholy task of preparing to turn over the keys of government to Bill Clinton. His wife, Barbara, had just finished showing the White House, her home of four years, to Hillary Clinton, who will live there the next four. The president left Washington at mid-day Friday to spend the weekend at Camp David with at least six Republican governors and their wives.

The United States, Britain and

Ghali rejects sanctions against Khmer Rouge

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has cautioned the Security Council against imposing sanctions to punish the Khmer Rouge for refusing to honour Cambodian peace accords.

The secretary-general also confirmed elections for a Constituent Assembly would take place in May whether or not the Khmer Rouge joined and he supported a French proposal to hold a separate presidential election that would probably put Cambodia's titular leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, in office.

In a major report to the Security Council, the U.N. chief referred to measures being considered by Council members and said, "I do not, however, recommend such an approach at this stage," he said adding he favoured "patient diplomacy" as the "best means of getting the peace process back on track."

The United States, Britain and

France have considered cutting off oil and other supplies to the Khmer Rouge through Thailand. France has drafted a resolution threatening an embargo while Washington and London were pushing for automatic implementation if the guerrilla group did not conform.

China has not made known its position but officials said Peking previously has opposed sanctions in principle.

Dr. Ghali indicated such an action would not be enforceable saying it would "depend critically on the full cooperation of neighbouring countries."

Thailand, which shares a border with Cambodia, does a thriving trade with the Khmer Rouge, importing timber and gems, and is unlikely to stop doing so.

Under terms of a peace accord signed in Paris in October 1991, the Khmer Rouge and three other warring factions would turn

over most of their weapons to the United Nations, retreat to cantonments and help organise free elections in May.

But the Khmer Rouge have refused, distrusting the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), for not taking over the Cambodian government run by its enemies. About 15,000 U.N. troops and 5,000 civilians are in Cambodia in an operation whose cost is estimated at well over \$2 billion.

Dr. Ghali strongly backed previous Security Council stances that elections for a Constituent Assembly would go ahead in May whether or not the Khmer Rouge joined.

But he rejected as impracticable informal French proposals for separate elections after those in May to enable voters in Khmer Rouge territory to join talks on a Constituent Assembly.

The United States and Britain

want a Jan. 31 cut-off date for the Khmer Rouge to join the election process.

Dr. Ghali confirmed earlier Security Council positions that the elections would go ahead in May. However, he warned that without the participation of the Khmer Rouge or the 14 per cent of the population it controlled, UNTAC would face difficulties in securing the safety of candidates and voters.

But he said he agreed with the co-chairmen of the Paris conference, France and Indonesia, on holding a separate presidential election. He gave no date for this election.

Meanwhile, United Nations officials in Cambodia have warned the head of the peacekeeping force there that corruption in local governments is rampant and harassment of opposition political parties is increasing.

Windsor Castle still burning in U.K. heritage disaster

WINDSOR, England (R) — Queen Elizabeth's medieval Windsor Castle smoldered against the morning sky Saturday as firefighters battled the last pockets of a blaze which has sent centuries of British heritage up in smoke.

A wing of the 1,000-room royal residence, which houses the world's biggest private art collection and includes some of the finest examples of regency decoration, was gutted by the blaze Friday.

But palace aides said they hoped that an art evacuation operation by a human chain of hundreds of people had saved all but a few priceless treasures from the flames, although some of the ornate rooms which housed them have been reduced to ashes.

As dawn broke Saturday, an orange glow rose above the castellated towers of the onetime royal fortress near London which has been a seat of British sovereigns for 850 years.

"The fire is still burning," said firefighter Commander Mike Clement-Green. "I anticipate that the main part of the (remaining) fire will be extinguished during the morning."

The queen was said by her second son Prince Andrew to be "absolutely devastated" by the blaze in her favourite royal residence, a romantic combination of turrets and sumptuous interior

furnishings assembled by generations of monarchs.

It was a bitter blow for the queen in a year which was supposed to be a celebration of her 40-year reign but has been dominated by the sadness of a succession of failed marriages among her children.

The fire broke out on the 45th anniversary of the queen's wedding to Prince Philip. A clearly shaken queen was glimpsed at the castle Friday in headscarf and Wellington boots surveying the devastation.

Castle officials and firefighters said the blaze had been contained within the north-east section of the building but the flames had wrecked some of the finest rooms, including a 13th century banqueting hall used to entertain visiting leaders.

Television pictures of St. George's Hall showed a scene of devastation. The vaulted roof had collapsed in the searing heat, leaving piles of charred timbers on the floor. Several towers and the private chapel where the fire is thought to have started just before noon Friday were also severely damaged.

Officials said it was too soon to comment on the cause of the fire but investigators starting work Saturday are likely to focus on an extensive rewiring of the castle's electrics, now under way.

Most of the great art works in the building, including paintings by Rembrandt and Rubens and drawings by Leonardo Da Vinci, were saved by castle staff, who passed the priceless artefacts to safety, marshalled by Prince Andrew.

Carpets, curtains, antiques and priceless paintings, some of them

taken to safety in a fleet of removal vans.

Set on a hill overlooking the River Thames, Windsor is the largest inhabited castle in the world and boasts a history stretching back to when William the Conqueror built a fortress on the site in 1070.

It draws some one million visitors a year and is the queen's

weekend retreat. She and her sister Princess Margaret were sent there from London during World War II to shelter from the German blitz.

The blaze was the second in six years at a British royal palace. A fire in 1986 badly damaged apartments at Hampton Court, southwest of London, which have since been refurbished.

Video picture taken from Sky TV shows smoke pouring from inside Windsor Castle (AFP photo)

and taken to safety in a fleet of removal vans.

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COLUMB

Army finds quick use for newly arrived resident

STOCKHOLM (AP) — is only six weeks old, but she will be assigned to an armoured personnel carrier case of war. She received request for her services last a few days after regionalities sent her a reminder to her driver's license. She whose last name was not given, the Swedish radio report, to several military par.

"Someone obviously is wrong person number in computer," an unidentified said on radio. Altho was a mistake, the nos Sandra illustrated the off the Swedish system can times demonstrate. The at quickly match a new resident military town with a public perform in an emergency

WASHINGTON (AP) — "year of the woman" in p already having an impact Senate. It's getting a w washroom. Majority.

George Mitchell said a room was being installed outside the Senate chamber to the men's room. Sen. I said he anticipated the h had work begin before last elections, when voters se new female members to i ate. "It will be adjacent men's room, as is comm in America," a grinning told inquiring reporters at conference Monday. I greeted newly elected se male and female. "This thing I anticipated some t and directed appropriate taken to meet the need senators." Sen. Mitch Bearing a sign that says "only," the men's room I has been located just a f off the Senate floor on the story-of the Capitol. A there have been two fem tors in recent years, the women's room was on a below, where there are washrooms.

Women making their presence already in Senate

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In Japan, say it with flowers

TOKYO (R) — A d Japanese florists is off down-to-earth twist on if tional Christmas bouque flowers wrapped in sh genuine dollar bills. A woman for Hanamoto's Tokyo said the sheen, ea prising \$2 one-dollar bat are imported directly f U.S. Federal Reserve e each. With flowers, they for 15,000 yen (\$120) greenery wrapped in gr may be a costly way to g flowers but there are di Hanamoto said. After the have been put into w thrown away, the sheets cut up into individual do and spent.

Paul Simon slam 'Graceland' case sentence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — American singer Paul Sin condemned as a racist m a three-year jail sente on the white killer of i South African who perfor his "Graceland" album. "miscreant of justice and the cause," Simon, speaki Los Angeles, said in a tel interview. "I am shocked verdict. It is an insult Shabalala family. It is m apartheid than justice." Ti ban Supreme Court last convicted security guar Nicholas of culpable homi shooting dead Headman Si la of Ladysmith black Me Singing Group in Natal p last December. The cou enced Nicholas to three y prison and referred the s to the commissioner of t tional Services for a deci whether he should serve i in jail or under a form of arrest at home. Nichol granted bail pending against sentence. Headma had two wives and at e children, was renowned bass trills and was co-fou the group, which sings t Zulu songs and hymns n panied. Brian Currie, a director of Lawyers for Rights, said by teleph sentence seemed inapprop light and his group was ing the case. "If you comp courts' judgements in wh black violence and bla white violence the end t generally speaking far diff he added.